

PEACE DELAY LAID AT DOOR OF SECRECY

Washington, Dec. 29.—Whether the war is diplomatic or not, the war is open to debate, but that it is to blame for the war being not in fact a diplomatic war. Paul S. Reisch, former minister to China, said in his presidential address before the American Historical Association.

The statesman who made the deliberations of the peace conference, he said, is not to be held responsible for the war, but he is justified on the supposition the freedom from outside interference would be accepted as equitable. He is not to be held responsible for the opinion of the nation. That expectation was not fulfilled.

The worst fault of modern diplomacy is that it attempts to cover with idealist professions and with talk of protecting integrity and independence and other claims and to cover every result.

Mr. Reisch declared that some day there will be a state of nature and the absolutist theory of state, where as "the democratic principle demands that the state should be a servant should be public, although the details of negotiations may remain confidential."

The only remaining absolutist state—Japan," he said, "voted diplomacy is true to type. In the case of Great Britain, publicity of diplomacy and the policy and full reports on diplomatic action are demanded, but not as they obtained."

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